DXCC OR WAZ

SO. CALIF DX CLUB

Bulletin

April 1984

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It's 1984 It's April It's time for Visalia and the International DX Convention

AT THE CONVENTION:

This year the convention will have an outstanding array of international guest speakers, IOMGM/1AOKM - Mario Gallavotti, "DXing from the order of Malta"; JA1BK - Kan Mizoguchi, "China, BY4AA and BY8AA". Plus an 80 meter extravaganza with Steve AA6AA and Glenn K6NA.

In addition to the speakers, the prizes like the pre-reg. prize of a TS930, Grand Prize of a Henry 2K Classic. Sunday breakfast prize of an Icom IC-745, a lady's prize of a micro-wave oven, plus much, much more.

There will be cocktail parties Friday, and Saturday nights; an ARRL booth with the W6QSL Manager W6LPJ on hand; and a QSL card contest with a $50 First Prize and $25 second prize.

Come and enjoy Visalia and the International DX Convention April 13, 14,15. SEE YOU THERE

CONGRATULATIONS:

To Dennis NS6C for making Honor Roll with 306/316 after 17 years of hard work.

EDITOR'S NOTES:

Thanks to CQ magazine for allowing us to reprint parts of the propagation forecast and contest calendar.

MARCH MEETING HIGHLIGHTS:

Gene and Jeanie Clark (W6DQH, WA6GUA) were well received. The slide presentation was great. Raffle winners were: N6HL, 1984 Foreign Call Book; K6HMA, 1984 USA Call Book; WB6SRR, 1983 Foreign Call Book; N6UH, Satellite Handbook; N6CGB, ARRL Antenna Book; W6GC, 3300 Low Pass Filter; N6DMV, AMECO High Pass Filter; KG6AR, 24-Hour Digital Clock; KK6P, Antronic Power Center, N6CGB, DX Card Holders; W6DQH, Cordless Soldering Iron; KG60, Coax Switch.

FAROE ISLANDS:

OY7A; LA5VAA/OY; LA5DW/OY; April 16-24; QSL via LA5VAA.

GUINEA:

3X4EX 28.575 at 2300, 21.320 at 1930, 14.160 at 2115, 14.236 at 0005, 7.085 at 0200 3.799 at 0134.

LESOTHO:

7P8CL 28.506 at 1400, 21.295 at 1520, 7.082 (QSZ up) at 0400 QSL via SM5DGA.

This was the Clipperton Team assembled March 8th at San Francisco Airport.

CLIPPERTON:

Because of many unforeseen events this DXpedition unfortunately did not occur. Thanks to Gordon W6NLG the above photograph of the team was supplied. Top: Left to right W6SZN, N7NG, W6TPH, KK6X, DJ9ZB, F6GXB, F9LX, FO8IW. Bottom: N6BLN, FO8GW, FO8HL, W6OAT, W6RGG. Better luck next time.

FROM CQ

FRANK ANZALONE, W1WY

The following is a sequel to last month's column in which I said I was a bit apprehensive about what would happen in our 160 Meter C.W. Contest the last weekend in January. Depending on your location, the propagation was fair to good. The static level was acceptable. The s.s.b.'ers folded their tents for the weekend, or moved their operation to frequencies above 1855 kHz. Even W1AW cooperated and cancelled its nightly broadcasts on 1818 kHz (many thanks, fellows).

The Europeans started to show up in the DX window in the late evening requesting QSX to frequencies lower in the band. It appeared that we were in for a good night of DXing and contesting. However, that did not last long. Suddenly a strong South American station opened up in the middle of the window and started an on-frequency operation. The resulting pile-up deteriorated into the usual hectic pattern characteristic of this type of operation when chasing a DX station. Utter confusion, abusive remarks, name calling, and malicious interference by a few spiteful individuals were noted. Disqualification would be justified, not for operating in the window (that problem was caused by the DX station), but for the unsportsmanlike conduct of a few in the pile-up (which probably would be meaningless, since the offenders were not participants in the contest). Later a couple of Europeans started the same type of operation.

All of this could have been avoided if the DX stations had been more cooperative and had heeded the advice of a few lucky ones who were able to contact them and who suggested that they QSX to frequencies lower in the band.

Common sense should tell you that on-frequency operation in the narrow 5 kHz of the window is not only nonproductive, but the resulting QRM from the strong stateside signals drowns out the weaker Europeans who are trying to establish a split operation. If a station is not equipped to work split-frequency, he should confine his operation to an out of the window section of the band.

The same situation was also evident here in the east in the early morning hours. Two prominent DX stations in the Pacific were also working on-frequency right smack in the middle of the window. They would have more than doubled their QSO totals in the short space of time they were being heard here in the eastern section of the states if they had observed the accepted practice of split-frequency operation out of the DX window.

It's a different and more competitive band now, but let's not lose the reputation we have built up over the years that 160 is the "gentleman's band."

LAST MINUTE FORECAST

Day-to-Day Conditions Expected for April 1984

	Expected Signal Quality			
Propagation Index	**(4)**	**(3)**	**(2)**	**(1)**
Above Normal: 4, 15, 22	**A**	**A**	**B**	**C**
High Normal: 3, 7-8, 14, 16, 23, 30	**A**	**B**	**C**	**C-D**
Low Normal: 2, 5-6, 9, 12-13, 20-21, 24, 26-27, 29	**A-B**	**B-C**	**C-D**	**D-E**
Below Normal: 1, 10-11, 17, 19, 25, 28	**B-C**	**C-D**	**D-E**	**E**
Disturbed: 18	**C-E**	**D-E**	**E**	**E**

Where expected signal quality is: **A—Excellent opening, exceptionally strong, steady signals greater than S9.**

B—Good opening, moderately strong signals varying between S6 and S9, with little fading or noise.

C—Fair opening, signals between moderately strong and weak, varying between S3 and S6, with some fading and noise.

D—Poor opening, with weak signals varying between S1 and S3, and with considerable fading and noise.

E—No opening expected.

HOW TO USE THIS FORECAST

1. **Find *propagation index* associated with particular band opening from Propagation Charts appearing on the following pages.**
2. **With the *propagation index*, use the above table to find the expected signal quality associated with the band opening for any day of the month. For example, an opening shown in the charts with a *propagation index* of 3 will be fair-to-poor (C-D) on the 1st, good-to-fair (B-C) on the 2nd, good (B) on the 3rd, excellent (A) on the 4th, etc.**

GEORGE JACOBS, W3ASK

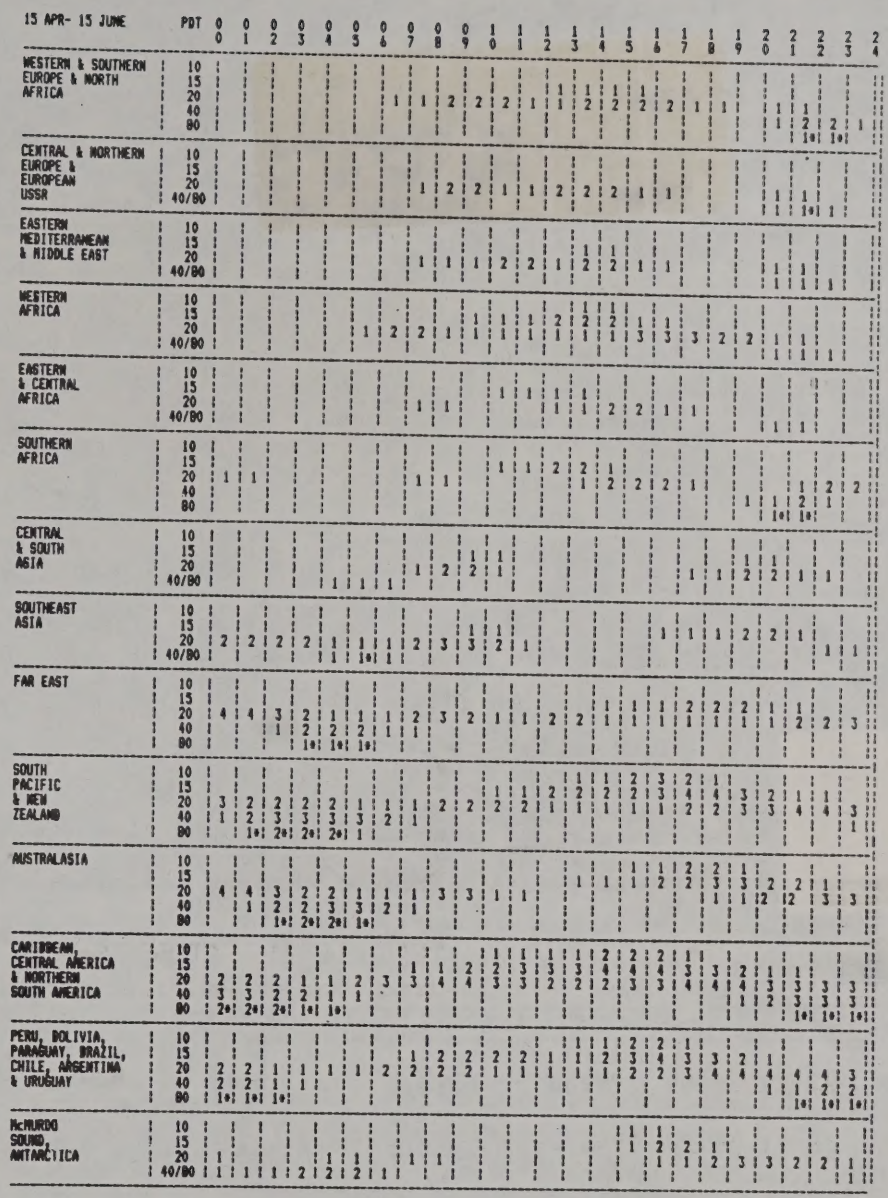
DX Conditions

Fewer DX openings are forecast for the *10* and *15* meter bands during April, but conditions are expected to *improve* on *20* meters during the day and *40* meters at night. Seasonably favorable conditions for long DX openings between the northern and southern hemispheres, associated with the equinoctial period, should continue through the month. An increased number of short-skip openings due to sporadic-*E* propagation is expected during April, and a major meteor shower is also expected to take place.

Twenty meters should be the optimum band for DX propagation during April. The band should open to most parts of the world shortly after sunrise, and remain open for DX throughout the daylight hours and well into the evening. Exceptionally strong signals should often be noticeable during the late afternoon and early evening hours.

Expect fewer openings on *15* meters this month, but some fairly good DX still should be possible to many areas of the world during the daylight hours. Peak conditions are expected during the afternoon and early evening hours on this band.

Not many DX openings are expected on *10* meters this month, but some should be possible towards Central and South America, the Caribbean area, and to the South Pacific during the afternoon hours, particularly during periods of High or Above Normal conditions.


15 APR- 15 JUNE
PDT
0 0 0 1 0 2 0 3 0 4 0 5 0 6 0 7 0 8 0 9 1 0 1 1 1 2 1 3 1 4 1 5 1 6 1 7 1 8 1 9 2 0 2 1 2 2 2 3 2 4
WESTERN & SOUTHERN EUROPE & NORTH AFRICA
CENTRAL & NORTHERN EUROPE & EUROPEAN USSR
EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN & MIDDLE EAST
WESTERN AFRICA
EASTERN & CENTRAL AFRICA
SOUTHERN AFRICA
CENTRAL & SOUTH ASIA
SOUTHEAST ASIA
FAR EAST
SOUTH PACIFIC & NEW ZEALAND
AUSTRALASIA
CARIBBEAN, CENTRAL AMERICA & NORTHERN SOUTH AMERICA
PERU, BOLIVIA, PARAGUAY, BRAZIL, CHILE, ARGENTINA & URUGUAY
McMURDO SOUND, ANTARCTICA
10
15
20
40
40/80

* On 40/80 indicates predicted 80 meter opening.

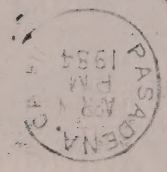
* On 80 indicates likely 160 meter opening

Improved DX propagation conditions are expected on *40* meters during April. The band should open towards Europe and the east an hour or so before sundown, towards the south an hour or so after sundown, and towards the west and South Pacific after midnight. Expect good DX openings throughout the hours of darkness, but signals should peak around midnight from an easterly direction and an hour or so before sunrise from all other directions.

Fairly good DX openings to many areas of the world should also be possible on *80* meters during the hours of darkness and at sunrise. There is also a chance for a few *160* meter DX openings during this same time period.

Ionospheric absorption should continue to increase in the northern hemisphere during April as the sun rises higher in the northern sky. This should result in somewhat *weaker* DX signal levels during daytime openings compared to the winter months. Static levels are also expected to increase noticeably during April as thunderstorms become more numerous. This should result in higher noise levels, particularly on *40, 80,* and *160* meters.

Stan Broki N2YQ
2645 North Marengo
Altadena, CA 91001



CONTEST CALENDAR

April 28-29 "King of Spain" Contest

April 28-29 "Swiss Helvitia" Contest

ACTIVITY REPORT FROM K6YKA FOR MARCH:

CALL	DAY	TIME	FREQ.
YVOAA	1	0348	3794
ZF2FL	"	0444	3800
ZF2FL	"	0456	7056
VU2GDG	"	1450	7080
YVOAA	2	0512	7081
UK2BBK	3	0114	7082
TU73	"	0207	7040
FB8WJ	"	0353	7160
HG5A	"	0433	7086
W6KG/CEO	"	0917	7053
T3OAC	"	0921	7057
W6KG/CEO	"	1013	3775
A22ME	"	1600	28632
OHOAM	4	0138	7086
UK2RDX	"	0231	7094
ZD7BW	"	0631	7043
5N1ARY	"	0633	7068
5H3BH	"	1907	28634
ZD8RC	"	2208	28620
EA9KF	8	0440	3800
7P8CL	11	1540	21258
HKOHEJ	12	0428	3794
YN1MAT	"	0434	3810
BY4AA	18	0131	21295
A22ME	19	0416	3760
ZL8BQD	"	1313	7087
ZLOAJW/8	"	1313	3798

ADVERTISEMENTS:

Shure 444D boxed mint COWDX, $40

Contact: Fred Berge KD6LY
20576 California Street
Woodland Hills, CA 91367
Telephone: (213) 347-1147

COAX Cable Group Purchase - Hughes Fullerton ARC is planning a bulk coax cable purchase in April:

RG8X SUPERFLEX @ .10/ft.
RG213 MIL SPEC @ .22/ft.

SCDX club members are invited to participate. Contact Jim Spears, AB6R, for information.

(714) 995-8948 (Home)
(714) 732-9381 (Work)
or
Club Repeater